

Summer Hansen
3631 Olive,
Long Beach, CA 90807

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Ms. Angela Reynolds , Environment Officer
Department of Planning and Building: Sports Park DEIR
City Of Long Beach
333 West Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90802

Concern – The Unique Character of the Landscape Lost With This Project

Willow Springs is a Very Special Place, a Treasured Secret Undiscovered.

Description: Willow Springs is like a valley. When you are in the valley you can't see any streets or cars. It is like being back in time in a beautiful valley with steep hills that feel like mountains. When we were there after rains there was a creek-like stream bed, which was the site of the original Spring. There is also a large "holding area of water" cemented in with cat tails growing in it.

1

It would be a tragedy to tear down the mountains and fill in the valley! There is no place that I know of in Long Beach that has these exciting features in elevation. When inside the valley, it truly feels like being away from the city, back in time with "mountains" or steep, steep high hills all around. We are hungry for that type of experience in Long Beach.

It is actually the second highest point in the City of Long Beach. (Signal Hill has the rest on the famous Signal Hill.) From the highest point in Willow Springs you can see all of Long Beach, Palos Verdes, the Ocean, the mountains and the cemetery. It is actually very inspiring. There is an exceptionally old, exceptionally beautiful tree (Elm I believe) at the highest point that is a place for deep reflection and peace. A great place to see the wonderful view.

2

The natural remnants of the spring-creek could be restored. There are beautiful remnants of wetlands with cat tails and other native plants, birds and wild life which is a treasure for children, adults and native species alike. And of course the old big trees should be preserved for the treasures they are..

3

Potential Possibility Visions that come to my mind for use of this land Willow Springs:

Biology Teaching Area

Demonstration-Teaching Area for Energy Resources: Solar, Hydro, Wind Mill, along with a Working Oil Well.

Vintage 1920 cars

Indian Village, (There are "natural reasons" that Indians used this area, with its natural spring, view etc.)

Perhaps a food area that features at least some natural organic healthy food & even classic American Indian food, such as Indian Fry Bread.

Organic Garden

City Mulching Project

Let Willow Springs go back into nature.

4

More Possibility Thinking:

Petting Zoo

Mules, Donkeys or Ponies for a Hillside & Valley Tour.

Butterfly Area - Like at the Zoo, where people can enter a butterfly or tiny hummingbird world.

Duck Pond incorporating the spring and restored natural water features.

Visit Madrona Marsh in Torrance at Torrance & Madrona Ave to get ideas.

My favorite memories as a child were playing in Coyote Creek, among cattails, before it was cemented in and catching pollywogs in a paper cup, watching them turn into frogs, seeing tiny little fishes, beautiful dragon flies, insects that skated on water, etc.. We are so hungry for these kinds of experiences in today's unpeaceful world that is so cut off from nature.

4

There could also be Fun for All! "Fun Active Activities" such as: Hay stacks to move around and make forts with, Swinging on a rope from a tree, Card Board Slides down the hills, Laser Tag, Sawdust jump.

There could also be a modest "water park" development (with a water slide feature) and a swimming pool.

There could be some fields for playing baseball etc., with a mixed use balance that preserves the exciting and peaceful, natural wild beauty of Willow Springs.

Again, why tear down the mountains and fill in the valleys at great expense when that topography is already a treasure?

It was suggested that perhaps the Sports Park could better be put on the North West side of town, by the river, where it is already flat with plenty of potential parking, where freeway access is easy etc.

5

From Summer Hansen, Founder: Be Community Friendly! - Children's Day -

SUMMER HANSEN

P-2-1

Please see Response to Comment O-1-1.

P-2-2

Please see Response to Comment O-1-2.

P-2-3

Please see Response to Comment O-1-3.

P-2-4

Please see Response to Comment O-1-4.

P-2-5

Please see Response to Comment O-1-5.